Knowledge of Morse cw is no longer a useful supplementary skill for voluntary monitoring of international distress communications. Nor is it used to any extent in local emergency communications. Even the US military has abandoned use of Morse cw for any of its primary communications links. (MARS has also abandoned all Morse CW nets.

This notion of Morse Testing, "keeping the Rift Raft", is a misnomer! Morse is not a measure of a person's character; it has done the opposite in discriminating against potential well meaning Citizens to become Radio Operators. Something the Amateur Radio Service needs in a Post 9-11 World. - Shawn, Amateur Radio Operator W2TRA.